

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE

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EDITOR AND
PUBLISHER
HERMANT BLDG.
21 Dundas Square
TORONTO

THIRTY-FIFTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION 1915-50

Vol. 42, No. 2035

TORONTO, CANADA

December 9th, 1950

LESS THAN 3 WEEKS TILL CHRISTMAS

HURRY and get your bookings done; hurry and get your selling done; hurry and get your theatre Christmas parties organized; hurry and get your shopping done, and don't forget that more and more each year, Christmas is directed towards giving the children a happy holiday and making other people, in addition to yourself, happy.

If you are interested in seeing a miracle, participate in the spirit; it will, in the twinkling of an eye, take years off your years; it will smooth out the furrows between your eyebrows; it will teach you to smile, even to laugh, as you have not laughed in years; it will increase your curiosity as to what is in concealed parcels all dressed up in their sparkling and beribboned array; it will increase your capacity to get things done; it will increase your appetite in anticipation of that Christmas dinner; it will increase your sense of taste and your sense of smell for savory foods; and, as you expand inwardly, this physical exercise will even enter the domain of your spiritual capacity and you will become imbued with the spirit to give more than you receive.

If your imagination has been permitted to grow dull because everyday realities have absorbed all of your thinking powers, just think of Christmas and look into the eyes of children, look at their eager, smiling faces, and you will see an expectant look; in the tilt of their heads, there is a listening attitude, for they are hearing sleigh-bells, they are seeing Santa Claus with reins in hand, they are seeing galloping reindeers and a sleigh laden with everything which a child desires.

You will see the ground covered with snow, that starry-white miracle which falls from the skies; you will hear the chimes of sweet-toned bells; and you will see trees glistening in their white and fragile mantle.

You will hear a chorus of voices singing "Noel, Noel," "Holy Night," and Irving Berlin's haunting words and melody will cause you to sing, hum and whistle, "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas," and, before you know what has happened to you, you will be looking at everyone you meet and saying in your heart, "And may all your Christmases be white."

As your heart becomes warm and friendly to everyone, you will see a clear sky, with a very deep blue, almost a purple tone, a royal sky studded with stars, but one star will appear to be larger and brighter to your vision. You will wonder if that is The Star of Bethlehem, thousands of years old, and will love, peace and good-will be born again and will they not fade away from our distraught world?

But, since you are in the mood for a miracle, you will say to yourself, "good-will will live as long as man has faith and hope, and these qualities in the heart and mind of man are qualities which descended to earth from heaven, therefore, they are immortal and will live as long as there is one human being left on earth to express them."

If you are close to a shop-window when these thoughts come to you, look at your reflection in the glass and you will behold a miracle, a new light in your own eyes, and a new life in your veins, and you will say to whomever is standing close to you, "Merry Christmas!"; and you will get a "Merry Christmas!" reply; and when you go home late that afternoon, you will not feel harassed or tired; you will feel exhilarated and content. Out will come a piece of paper and your pen and you will, with a mysterious air, begin to write down names and the kinds of gifts you would like to give, and you will remember poor relations and children who have no mother and fa-

ther to write their names down.

That night, you will sleep soundly and, if you dream, your dreams will be happy ones that you will not remember what they were about, but in the morning, you will feel refreshed, eager to do the job which each day brings, and the job will not be a burden to you but a pleasure.

Your employer or your employees, your friends or acquaintances, the people with whom you do business, will look at you and remark that you are growing younger-looking each year; and, as happiness and good cheer are contagious, those with whom you come into contact will be imbued with your merry spirit, they will clean up delinquent dates, they will give you new business, passers-by will pause to enjoy the festive air of your theatre and make a mental note that they must take the family to the theatre during the holiday season.

So hurry, hurry, hurry; it is less than three weeks to Christmas and you know that you have but two weeks of this three to get whatever you have to do finished because that week before Christmas is not a week in which your mind is on your job, nor is the week between Christmas and New Year's Day, a week which produces a capacity for work equal to the capacity which you have for enjoyment, in spite of the fact that you may be operating a theatre and the holidays will give you added work and worry.

Just think what a miracle it is to live and work in a country where there is no regimentation and no forced labour . . . in a country where no police can walk up and nail a "closed" sign on your church or synagogue.

Just think what a miracle it is that you can go to bed at night and have no fear that the Secret Police may come and knock on your door, break it down, enter and seize you and other

(Continued on Page 12)

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RAY PRESENTS



COLUMBIA Pictures opened its much-heralded and discussed picture, *Harriet Craig*, at the Odéon-Carlton big showplace, Toronto, and Joan Crawford's numerous fans had a real Roman holiday. Co-starred with Joan Crawford is Wendell Corey. *Harriet Craig* is a screen adaptation of the Pulitzer prize-winning story, *Craig's Wife*, by George Kelly, produced by William Dozier and directed by Vin-

cent Sherman. Columbia's much discussed operatic film, *Faust And The Devil* opened a successful engagement at the Seville Theatre, Montreal and Bob Maynard, manager gave this very fine production, produced by Rabinovitch, and directed by Carmine Gallone, director of Italy's most important operatic films, a great pre-campaign send-off. *Faust And The Devil* includes in its starring cast such operatic favorites as Nelly Corradi and the Metropolitan famous basso—Italo Tajo.

20th-Fox boxoffice winner *All About Eve*, with Bette Davis, Anne Baxter, George Sanders and Celeste Holm continues its successful engagement at the Famous Players University and Nortown Theatres, Toronto; now in its fifth week.

The Somerset Maugham, *Trio*, which Paramount Pictures is releasing in Canada, is now in its sixth big week at Odeon's Hyland Theatre, Toronto, and looks good for many weeks more.

Charlie Chaplin's, *City Lights* continues to roll them in the aisles at the Towne Cinema, Toronto, in its sixth week; while at the International Cinema, the J.B. Priestley, *Last Holiday*, is in its second week, starring Alec Guinness in another British laughing success.

THE Casino's chorus of fair ladies bowed out with a tear and a smile, after more than a decade of years, and with the departure of the girls, Toronto's last association with burlesque ends. The Casino will now present Vaudeville and pictures, Big Vaudeville fashioned after ye good olde Shea's vaudeville days.

Vittorio de Sica's Academy Award and prize-winning film, *Shoe Shine*, having played a successful engagement at the United Amusement Theatre, The Avenue, Montreal, returns to this theatre for another engagement this week.

France Films' recently reconstructed St. Denis theatre, Montreal, is worth a visit. Mr. J. De Seve, president of the company, has made the St. Denis a showplace, and the theatre now can hold its own with the best on the American Continent. It has a capacity of 2,500 and during a recent visit to the theatre I was astonished to find every seat occupied at 7 p.m. with standing-room only possible. Admission is 90 cents. The show presented during the week of my visit had an elaborate stage-show including leading French vaudeville artists and an orchestra stage-band. The French language picture presented starred Patricia Roc and was partly produced in Canada and in Paris; a R.W.M. Police murder mystery story with plenty of thrills and suspense in which there was introduced a love-theme which held the interest against Canadian picturesque and rugged backgrounds.

IT WAS common gossip in Montreal that the cost of the stage-show would reach \$25,000, but that the gross receipts for the week would possibly reach \$45,000. I observed that *Fabiola*, the French-dubbed version of the Italian produced, *Fabiola*, directed by Blasetti, and which

had a 12-week run at France Films' Cinema de Paris theatre on St. Catherine's St., Montreal, the early part of this year, will shortly be presented at the St. Denis. Alessandro Blasetti, is called *The Cecil B. DeMille of Italy*, and is also responsible for the direction of another spectacular production, in two versions, *The Iron Crown*, now being released in Canada, Italian dialogue with English titles and narration; and a French-dubbed version by Selznick-Alliance.

Elia Kazan's production, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, by Tennessee Williams, a Pulitzer Prize and Critics' Circle Award Winner as Best Play of the Year, will open a week's engagement at the Royal Alexandra, Toronto. *Streetcar Named Desire* is one of Warner Bros. coming big pictures, with Vivien Leigh (*Gone With The Wind*) fame and Marlon Brando, in his original stage characterization.

The one and only Sophie Tucker is a guest artist at the Fiesta Room, Prince George Hotel, and how lucky will be the members and guests of Variety should Sophie visit the Variety Club. Some day Mr. Show Business will pay an outstanding tribute to Sophie Tucker, a veteran showwoman, and an outstanding artist, woman and philanthropist. When Sophie called herself *The Last of the Red-Hot Mamas*, the world sang back, "And With a Heart as Big as Herself."

I HAVE just come from the preview screening of Universal-International's picture, *Harvey*, most unusual and delightful entertainment. James Stewart's characterization of Elwood is so life-like that I am still thinking about him, smiling at him and with him; as a matter of fact his belief in that rabbit, Harvey, has so convinced me of Harvey's existence, that unconsciously, as I was writing, I drew up a chair for Harvey.

Here is another very strong contender for an Academy Award, James Stewart as the Year's Best Actor, Elwood in *Harvey*; and my other choice, as you will remember, is Anne Baxter as the year's best supporting actress for her Eve in, *All About Eve*.

THE ban on the sale of steel for Canada, as announced by Trade Minister Howe, in Ottawa, last Saturday, will include steel for dance halls, theatres, rinks, amusement parks, recreational clubs or halls, holiday camps, stadiums, race tracks, and bowling alleys. Steel even for defense contractors will come under another order which establishes priorities. This order becomes effective Jan. 1st, 1950. Mr. Howe's order establishes a Steel Control Administrator's office through which the steel shortage in Canada will be met in order that it may not affect Canada's defense program.

Oliver Master, assistant deputy in the Department of Trade and Commerce, stated that the completion of each project now under construction will depend on how far the project has progressed towards completion.

In the case of non-essential building now under construction, deliveries can continue to be made, but only after special permission has been obtained from the department.

Denis Harvey, Commodities Director will take temporary charge of the steel program and W. H. Fitzpatrick of Montreal, manager of Atlantic Steels Limited, will be Fitzpatrick's deputy.

The ban, for supply of steel, will extend to builders of breweries, liquor factories, or stores, to those producing out-door advertising signs, soft-drink or confectionery factories or stores. Housing will not be

(Continued on Page 11)

Toronto and District

BILL PRESS

THE ELECTIONS of the Toronto Variety Tent were the occasion for the retirement of Morris Stein who had served one year as Chief Barker in succession to the founder and first chief of the club, J. J. Fitzgibbons.

Among others who did not run for the executive board were Stan Gosnell, who is completing his term as property master; William Summerville, Jr., the Dough Boy, and two canvassmen, David Griesdorf and Ray Allen.

New officers chosen from among the canvassmen who were elected for 1951 are as follows: Herb Allen, Jack Arthur, R. W. Bolstad, J. J. Chisholm, Lorne Green, Dan Krendel, Doug V. Rosen, Ernie Bushnell, Ernest Rawley, Sam Wacker and Joe Ziegler.

* * *

Invited guests gathered at the Towne Cinema, Toronto, for a special screening Sunday night, Dec. 3, of Harvey, to be released by Empire-Universal Films.

* * *

A Toronto visitor this week was Kroeger Babb, president of Hallmark Productions who conferred with N. A. Taylor and D. V. Rosen, president and general manager respectively of International Films Distributors who are currently distributing Hallmark Productions in Canada.

* * *

A wedding of interest was celebrated in Cleveland when Shirley Pepon was married to Selwyn Ginsler, United Artists salesman, formerly with Alliance Films in Toronto.

* * *

The Royal Theatre at Hearst, Ont., was closed last week by Inspector Pollock of the Theatre Inspection Branch for an infraction of the regulations governing the operation of theatres in Ontario.

The opening of the remodelled Mayfair Theatre in West Toronto by 20th Century Theatres brought the addition of that unit into the regular chain-booking arrangement with four other houses for first-run programs.

In other words, the old "Toronto Junction" has a first-run theatre for the first time in the history of the district. The four other links in the group are the Downtown, Glendale, Scarboro and State. The policy started with the playing of Wyoming Mail, and Chain Gang.

* * *

The latest member for the Ontario MPTA is W. Ken Waite of the new drive-in at Owen Sound, Ont.

* * *

Gift books of theatre tickets for both Famous Players and Canadian Odeon circuits are now on sale in a central downtown bureau in Toronto, in addition to the theatres themselves. Supplies of the books are available at the Strand Ticket Agency, 91-93 Yonge St., Toronto—on the site of the old Strand Theatre, operated by Jerry Shea, by the way.

* * *

The Rio and Broadway in down-town Toronto broke out with The Cagney Story as the name of the program combination which was made up of two features starring Jim Cagney, White Heat and The Fighting 69th.

It shows what can be done with older pictures.

The Digest regrets to announce the death of Lily Lorie Nathanson, wife of Henry Nathanson, who is President of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures of Canada. The late Mrs. Nathanson had been seriously ill for a number of years, but her death came as a shock to the family's many friends who knew of her illness, but hoped because of her courage and fortitude that she would overcome this illness from which she had been a sufferer since the early years of her marriage.

Services were held last Monday in the Holy Blossom Temple. She leaves her husband Henry Nathanson, a daughter, Nancy, and a sister, Mrs. Ira Lorie. Born in Toronto, the late Mrs. Henry Nathanson was forty-seven years old. She died at her home, Don Acres, Cummer Ave., Newtonbrook, early Saturday morning, Dec. 2nd.

THE CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Entered as Second Class Matter

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Address all mail to the Publisher
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST
COMPANY, LIMITED

21 Dundas Square - Toronto

Telephone: WAverley 8696

Cable: Raydigest

Established 1915. Publication weekly.

Subscription: \$5.00 yearly

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BRUCE PEACOCK.....Regina, Sask.

JACK DROY.....Vancouver, B.C.

WILL McLAUGHLIN.....Ottawa, Ont.

BILL PRESS.....Toronto, Ont.

They Were Not Divided has proved highly successful in its engagement at the Avenue Theatre, Montreal. It was held for an eighth week.

* * *

William Curley, former manager of the Manor Theatre, Toronto, has been appointed manager of the Nelson at Ottawa, it is announced from 20th Century Theatres headquarters. Curley, who was once assistant manager at the Downtown here, succeeds Les Jeffries who found it necessary to make a change for a medical reason.

* * *

Famous Players Canadian Corp raised its dividend for the last quarter of 1950 from 25c to 30c, according to notice received from N. G. Barrow, secretary.

* * *

The Digest regrets to report the death of the mother of Ernie Rawley, of the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto. Ernie Rawley has had two sad bereavements during the year, his father and his mother, and members of Variety, who had just re-elected Ernie Canvassman for Variety, received a double shock when word came, also, during a meeting that Jack Niblock, assistant to Ed Durocher of the Royal Alexandra Theatre, had died during an operation.

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In EDMONTON, ALTA., work has started on the Famous Players' theatre, The Paramount, to cost in excess of \$700,000. The theatre is expected to take about one year to complete.

Theatre will be 90 feet by 150 feet and will seat 1,600. General contract has been awarded to C. H. Whitham, Ltd., Edmonton. John Ferguson, Winnipeg, general maintenance manager and buildings supervisor for Famous Players, has been in Edmonton to discuss construction plans with Walter P. Wilson, manager of the Capitol theatre, and other officials.

Green Acres drive-in at LETHBRIDGE, ALTA., will have added improvements before reopening next spring, according to Fred Levitt, manager, including an extension of the children's playground.

The opening of the new Paramount Theatre at St. John's, Newfoundland, was a gala affair attended by the Lieutenant Governor, Sir Leonard Outerbridge, officials and prominent people of the city as well as by R. S. Roddick of Halifax, Maritime Supervisor for Famous Players and Jules Wolfe of the Toronto office of that Company. The Lieutenant-Governor and Mr. Roddick were introduced to the audience by James A. Gibbs, K.C. of St. John's and all made congratulatory addresses. Mr. Wolfe, Toronto, supervisor of construction and maintenance for Famous Players, and members of his staff had been in St. John's for some weeks superintending the work of the new building and its equipment with the latest in projection and decoration. The film shown was J. Arthur Rank's Trio and it was very well received. All receipts from the opening night were donated to the Welfare Organization of St. John's. Miss Nora Hogan is manager of the new Paramount as well as of the Capitol Theatre, another Famous Players theatre in St. John's. Much success will be wished this new theatre by many friends in the Maritimes and elsewhere.

John Dyzak has announced that he is constructing another drive-in, this one at CLAPPISON'S CORNERS off highway No. 6 from Toronto to Hamilton. This theatre will accommodate 1,000 cars and is expected to be completed about May.

Dew, Lochnan Appointed To NFB Posts

Two senior National Film Board posts are being filled this week with the appointment of Desmond Dew, ex-J. Arthur Rank associate, and Carl J. Lochnan, formerly of the Civil Service Commission, to the positions of Production Advisor and Assistant Director of Distribution respectively.

Mr. Dew, 38, whose specialty is sound, music, aptics and other technical services required in the finishing-off of films, has been closely associated with the great figures of British cinema for over 15 years. His first picture was The Shape of Things to Come, with Sir Alexander Korda and Raymond Massey, after which he was borrowed by Elizabeth Bergner for the production of "As You Like It."

In 1945, Mr. Dew was appointed head of the finishing-off department at J. Arthur Rank's Pinewood and Denham studios where he had served since 1935. He recently played a large part in converting Denham's sound recording stage into the largest music-recording plant in Europe.

Some of the films with which he has been associated lately are "Henry V," "Hamlet," "Brief Encounter," "Great Expectations" and "The Red Shoes." He has also worked on documentary films.

Last October he was invited to Canada by the Trade and Industry Department of Ontario to see about setting up an independent feature film producing centre here. He had already selected a site for the company near Oshawa, Ontario, when lack of capital brought the project to a halt. In February, 1950, Mr. Dew was asked by Film Commissioner W. Arthur Irwin to do a technical survey of the Board, a project which he completed in early summer.

Mr. Lochnan, 36, is a native of Ottawa, and a graduate of St. Patrick's College where he is a part-time lecturer in public administration. He joined the Civil Service Commission in 1938, moving rapidly up to the position of Organization and Classification Officer. Early this fall, he was appointed Canadian delegate to the United Nations seminar on public administration, held in New York City.

During the war Mr. Lochnan was a lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Navy. He is also well-known in Ottawa for his work in the theatrical field, being one of the actors sent by the Ottawa Drama League to the Edinburgh Festival last year.

Tivoli Theatre, Saskatoon, now boasts a \$25,000 air conditioning system. Unit is General Electric, installed by Fleming-Pedlar, Ltd.

Feldman Appointed U-I Domestic Sales Manager

Charles J. Feldman, who for the past year has been Eastern Sales Manager of Universal Pictures Company, Inc., has been appointed Domestic Sales Manager for the company, it was announced by Alfred E. Daff, Director of World Sales.

For the past four years, Feldman has been a member of the executive sales cabinet with headquarters in the New York office, having been transferred from Los Angeles when he was named Western Sales Manager in 1946.

Feldman started in the film business in 1927 as a salesman for United Artists. He joined Universal in 1929 as a salesman and was soon promoted to manager of the Denver office. He served successfully as manager of the Salt Lake City, San Francisco and Los Angeles offices.

He was then promoted to District Manager for the West Coast and his elevation to Western Sales Manager followed.

Mr. Daff on behalf of Mr. Feldman issued the following statement:

"Our company, in appointing Charlie Feldman as Domestic Sales Manager, again demonstrates its policy to promote its sales personnel to top executive positions whenever such opportunities arises.

Feldman is a fine example of the executive who came up the hard way and went through the school of practical experience in this business. We are confident that his many friends among the exhibitors in this country who have known him for many years will be most gratified to learn of his advancement."

NFB's Cadet Holiday

A light-hearted film made last summer at Camp Ipperwash and Petawawa, Ontario, with the co-operation of the Canadian Army, will be the National Film Board's release for December.

Photographed in natural color mostly on the shores of Lake Huron, "Cadet Holiday" tells the story of two boys chosen to represent their school cadet corps at Camp Ipperwash. While there, they study camouflage, anti-aircraft work, scouting, swimming, and so on. They also reduce the C.O. to the hair-tearing state by leading a mile-long truck convoy by a supposed short cut to a dead-end on a lake shore, and running amuck in camp with a Sherman tank.

The two boys who play the leads in this Canada Carries On release, are students at the Cornwall Collegiate Institute. The film will be distributed by Columbia Pictures of Canada, Limited.

Rank Opens School For Managers

In mid-November, J. Arthur Rank opened at the Gaumont Theatre, Finchley, North London, the first training school for theatre managers which has been set up to date in any part of the world.

The school will give a 6-month course in all the theoretical and practical aspects of operating a theatre, hopes to give really sound basic training and to qualify its graduates for starting posts as assistant managers in British cinemas.

Kenneth Winckles, administrator of Circuits Management Association Limited which operates the Odeon and Gaumont theatre chains, explained the purpose and functions of the school following the unveiling by Mr. Rank of a plaque commemorating the event.

"We believe that theatre management has a much larger part to play in the presentation of film entertainment than is generally believed," he said.

He said that particular emphasis would be laid on showmanship and presentation which were 'the lifeblood of good theatre management.'

The course would include lectures on all aspects of film publicity and presentation as well as on such subjects as production. Students would be given an opportunity to participate in the head-office planning of campaigns which would subsequently be used on the circuits, would also have a chance to study first-class showmanship programs with managers in the field and finally, take part in arranging publicity campaigns for the Finchley theatre.

The practical side of theatre operation from projection, ventilation and accounting procedure to staff management, is covered by talks and demonstrations. Students will also visit all types of cinemas to gain first-hand knowledge of the different types of theatres.

One of the unusual features of the course is a series of visits to head-office departments of the J. Arthur Rank Organization to give managers of the future a clear understanding and appreciation of the over-all problems of theatre administration.

On the practical side, students will participate in the actual operation of the Finchley theatre and learn by experience all the duties and responsibilities involved in the proper running of a theatre, from carpet-cleaning to the work of cashier.

For the first training course, 24 students were selected from a large number of applicants by a special panel of experts in London. The JARO plan calls for successful students to be assigned to operating theatres.

TRADE HEADLINES

All major companies agree to provide film for Phonevision's 90-day test in Chicago area with exception 20th-Fox who will furnish films free only if U.S. Department Justice commands.

His Majesty's, Montreal, presenting Cavalcade of Italian-produced film operas this week from Saro.

Prince of Peace (Hallmark-IFD) opens several successful Famous Players engagements and will be presented in 52 Famous Players Theatres, International Film Distributors report.

Andrew Pura, member of Local 173, projectionists union, files slander suit at Toronto against officers William P. Covert and James Sturgess.

Saturday Night, weekly, had a feature story on Simon Meretsky and the Testimonial Dinner to him by Canadian Picture Pioneers.

Jimmy Nairn, Famous Players Canadian Advertising and Publicity Chief, had a special screening for press and radio on the latest Herbert Wilcox-Anna Neagle picture, Odette, released through Oscar Hanson's Pioneer Films Limited in Canada.

John J. Fitzgibbons, Public Relations officer Canadian Picture Pioneers, attended Pioneers Dinner, Waldorf, New York, honoring Spyros Skouras as Pioneer of the Year — 100 new members inducted — Fitzgibbons reports "it was a grand affair."

Stanton Griffiths, Paramount Executive, likely Ambassador to Spain — President Truman appointment.

Paramount registers title, My Fifty Years In Show Business — story about 77-year old Chairman Paramount Board of Directors, Adolph Zukor, who started in Show Business in 1902 — There's a story.

Ray Lewis has copyrighted a story with two titles — The Great I Am and A Cat Can Look At A Queen — all about her experiences as actress, film writer, barefoot dancer, film publisher, poet, wife of an artist, exhibitor and distributor.

Sol Lesser organizing series of Art Theatres to distribute foreign films in U.S. under franchise policy — will produce a female Tarzan picture for RKO titled Jungle Girl — forms partnership with Douglas Fairbanks to produce 28 film versions Shakespearean plays for Video.

Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations leading attempt to have Quebec Statute of 1928 preventing children under 16 from attending motion picture theatres repealed or amended.

Maritime News

By A. L. FAIRWEATHER

A PRIVATE showing of the RKO film *You Can Beat the A-Bomb*, was held at the invitation of Arthur Lee-White, Maritime manager of RKO, Saint John, when the Lieutenant-Governor D. L. MacLaren and Mrs. MacLaren, Chief of Police Oakes, Deputy Fire Chief Magee, representatives of the Mounted Police, of the City Hospitals and Board of Trade, along with the Press and Radio were present. The showing was held at the N.B. Board of Censors office where Frank Owens, is chairman. The picture will be on view at local theatres probably in February next, Mr. Lee White stated in his brief address to the gathering.

A. I. Garson, Maritime representative for the Odeon Theatres of Canada, was in Toronto visiting the head office of the Company recently.

The Empress Theatre at Moncton, N.B. has been closed for some time as it is being re-decorated and renovated to match its sister house, the Capitol, Gregg Jones being manager of both theatres. The work of decorating is in the hands of Mrs. Freda April, who is an interior decorator and the Capitol colour scheme bears witness to her taste and clever designing.

The Press at Yarmouth, N.S. published a picture of Mrs. Alfreda Allen of Kelly's Cove, N.S. receiving \$525 for her photo which had been selected in the weekly *Foto-Nite* at the Capitol Theatre in Yarmouth, N.S.

The following night Miss Muriel Allen received \$300 at the same theatre at which Ernest Hatfield is manager.

All About Eve was held over and showed for six days at the Paramount Theatre, Saint John. Manager F. Harrison Howe stated that all the comments on this splendid feature were most favorable and your correspondent feels that no praise is too high for this film with its almost perfect acting and cast. Unfavorable weather detracted a little from the attendance but many patrons went twice to see it and raved about it.

Douglas Smith of the Casino Theatre, Halifax (Odeon) had a good tie-up with the *Farmer's Dairy* of that city for the showing of the Empire-Universal film *The Milk Man*. All bottle tops on the milk, set out by this dairy, bore a picture of Jimmie Durante on them and the stunt aroused good interest.

Winnipeg News

J. J. CONKLIN

WALTER H. FOGG, 62, for many years, manager for the Pantages Theatre in Winnipeg, and later manager of the Capitol Theatre after vaudeville had folded up, died at his home in Winnipeg Nov. 30. He was one of the most capable and popular men in the show business, and in later years had been a member of the executive of the T. Eaton Company. He was also a prominent member of the Masonic Order and a Shriner. He is survived by his widow, two sons and two daughters. Mr. Fogg was well known in all theatrical centres in the U.S.

Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall this year on an awkward period for midnight shows, on Sunday, however managers, will stage their usual gay programs on Monday morning starting at a few minutes after midnight. Preparations have been made for the most elaborate stage shows in recent years.

Frank Ogletree has been re-elected president of the Portage la Prairie Manitoba film council at their annual meeting.

Other officers named were: vice-president, W. B. Glesby; treasurer, Lorne Chappell; secretary, Horace Ireland; custodian, M. Elliott; examiner, protom, Maurice Harvey.

The financial report tabled by Lorne Chappell showed a bank balance of \$125.07.

Recent successes at the Winnipeg theatres were *Two Flags West*, at the Garrick, *The Toast of New Orleans*, two weeks at the Met; *All About Eve*, two weeks at the Capitol, a notable show; *Flame and The Arrow*, two weeks at the Gaiety, following a run at the Capitol; *Daring Expose*, two weeks at the Lyceum.

For the first day's showing of *They Were Not Divided*, the management of the Strand (Odeon) Theatre, St. John, invited members of the 8th Princess Louise (N.B.) Hussars to attend. The unit marched to the theatre and the parade drew much attention to the fine feature. The Hussars are an armoured regiment and took part in the Second World War as a Canadian armoured division. The lobby of the Strand, where Bill Nash is manager, was dressed with military symbols. The regimental band accompanied the unit to the theatre for the show. The picture was well attended and was held over.

Vancouver News

JACK DROY

THE Famous Players Theatre Managers Association of British Columbia held their 5th annual amusement ball at the Commodore Cabaret on Sunday. It was voted a big success for the Help The Children Fund. Seven hundred theatre folks and their friends attended the ball which included an oriental floor show. The busy man at the party was Strand manager Norman Duncan who was also MC. Entertainment committee for the party were Ivan Ackery, Orpheum; Frank Gow Jr., Broadway; and Eddie Zetterman of the Columbia theatre New Westminster. Wally Hopp, Cinema theatre, headed the raffle committee.

Roy McLeod, Odeon-Hastings manager, has proved there's a place for vaudeville or stage shows in Vancouver, if sold properly. The east side house is playing to top business with the policy of stage shows plus a first-run picture. Tariff is 25c, 35c and 50c top.

Charles Chaplin, Canadian General Manager for United Artists, was conferring with Harry Wolfe, Vancouver manager. Also here was Frank Fisher, Canadian head of Eagle-Lion Films, checking with his B.C. manager, Jack Reid. . . . Ivan Ackery, Orpheum manager was on the sick list. . . . The father of Bert Kent, Rex theatre projectionist, died here. He was in his 82nd year. . . . Garvin's Studios of Vancouver have completed a first class interior art job at the Odeon-Vogue. . . . Norman Duncan, Strand manager, made some good tie-ups with local stores and firms for his showing of *Jackpot*; full window displays were arranged in downtown stores which helped the grosses on the picture.

Stan Pooley, former manager of the Strand Theatre here, is now manager of Warner's California Theatre at Santa Barbara, and Cecil Cameron, former manager of the F-P Paramount Theatre in New Westminster, is manager of the Sunset Theatre, Hollywood.

Many drive-in theatres built by newcomers to the industry are not proving the bonanza anticipated and a number of these outdoor spots are now for sale, real estate operators reported. As much as \$150,000 was spent on some of these drive-ins with their owners anticipating recoupment of the investment in a few years. As a result, they feel they are taking a beating on their initial cash outlay and are looking to sell out with no takers to date showing any interest in buying.

CMPIC HOLDS SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

THE Canadian Motion Picture Industry Council held its second annual meeting at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, Mon., Dec. 4th, with continued sessions on Tuesday.

The meeting was preceded by a meeting of the National Committee of Motion Picture Exhibitors' Associations at which the Chairman, Archie Mason, welcomed the local members of the National Committee and members representing the various associations, some of whom are also appointed delegates of the National Council.

The agenda for the meeting of The Motion Picture Industry Council of Canada included a welcoming address by the Chairman, the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, business arising out of the minutes, amendments of constitution re delegates, election of permanent officers, general comments, information from Jules Wolfe on theatre construction, the nomination and election of chairmen for the various committees, and reports in general from the delegates.

At the first meeting of the Council, Wed., Oct. 12th, 1949, at the Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, temporary officers and committees were appointed in order to work out the by-laws for a constitution, to receive resolutions from the representative committees, and to solidify the different units of our industry into a united and representative Council.

The purpose for which the Council was formed received further clarification, and in the open discussions which

followed, all channels were explored to improve the status of the industry in its intra-industry relationships, ways and means for the improvement and stimulation of box-office returns discussed, public relations, competition from other fields of amusement taken into consideration, with a full open discussion on television, suggestions for a closer cooperation with producers analyzed, participation in Federal, Provincial and other services of national importance emphasized, unfair taxation, legislative restrictions all were directed to the consideration of appointed committees.

The Delegates and Observers, the latter appointed or selected to attend the Conference on invitation from the authorized delegates, were John J. Fitzgibbons, CBE; Mayor Archie Mason, M.P., and F. Gordon Spencer, Maritimes; David Griesdorf, Leonard Brockington, K.C., Morris Stein, Gordon Lightstone, Haskel Masters,

Charles Chaplin, Fred Dillon, George Miller, Saskatchewan; William Winter-ton, Sask.; Charles Bourassa, Arthur Hirsch, Basil Salamis, John Ganetakos, George Panos, Henry Falk, all of Montreal; Maynard S. Joiner and Len B. Johnson of British Columbia; Mesho Triller and R. Miles of Manitoba; Ken M. Leach and Matt Park, Alberta; Jack Chisholm, Arthur Gottlieb, Stan Gosnell, Ben Freedman; Richard Stillwell, Clare Appel, Larry Bearg, R. W. Bolstad, Ben Geldsaler, Jules Wolfe, H. C. D. Main, Arch Jolley, Hye Bossin and Ray Lewis.

John J. Fitzgibbons, C.B.E., was elected president; David Griesdorf, vice-pres., Archie Mason, sec'y.-treas., and Arch Jolley, assist. sec'y.-treas. Election of the officers was by open nomination and a vote by the delegates.

It was moved to nominate and elect the Chairmen of the Special Committees with authorization to the Chairmen to appoint their own committees, not necessarily from the appointed delegates of the Council.

Each member-association of the Council which represented all branches of the industry, covering exhibition, distribution, production, laboratories

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RAY PRESENTS

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affected under the ban, nor will commercial buildings, except those which have been specially mentioned.

AT Smooth Rock Falls, a paper town west of Cochrane, Ont., the Trinity church is building a 70,000 Quonset theatre, with a seating capacity of 400. The theatre is expected to open Feb. 1, and will be equipped with ultra-modern projection and sound equipment, and will have modern and comfortable seats. It will serve about 2,000 people in this area.

Movies will be shown four nights a week and there will be a most careful selection of product, particularly careful since the theatre is to be operated by a committee of fifteen parishioners of the Trinity United Church, who have obtained a corporate charter under which the theatre will be operated.

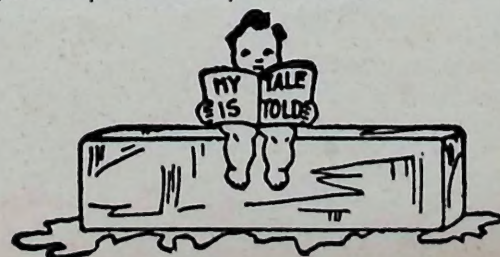
Members of the committee will be elected in rotation from members of the congregation. The Chairman is Thomas Richmond, who has been providing movies for the town since he became associated with the Rev. Norman Rawson, now pastor of First United Church, Hamilton, who thirty years ago began his missionary work at Smooth Rock Falls. Mr. Rawson introduced occasional movies for the entertainment of the people of the town.

The Rev. Samuel B. East, Trinity's pastor, who is 78, and one of the United Church's most progressive pastors, is the father of the Rev. Stuart B. East, M.C. the twice-wounded padre of the 48th Highlanders and now pastor of the Islington United Church.

"SOMEHOW" said Mr. East, "as the years went by, providing movies came to be regarded as the duty of the United Church. They have been shown up to the present in the old Church hall, recently condemned!" All proceeds of the commercial venture will be devoted to the needs of the congregation and to the general missionary work of the United Church presbytery, said Mr. East. "I consider it very fine for the church to be associated with the theatre. All films are carefully selected to meet the approved standards of morality. Then too, they help many of our non-English speaking population to learn the language," he said.

The secretary-treasurer is Walter Quinn, who holds a first-class projectionist's license, and who has been presenting the shows for the past 22 years. The site was donated by the Abitibi Power and Paper company and the tentative theatre name is Trinity Joy Centre.

Watch for the Digest's Christmas and Holiday Issue. All copy for insertion in The Christmas and Holiday Special Digest Issue must reach the Toronto office of The Digest not later than Dec. 12. With the New Year, The Canadian Moving Picture Digest passes into its 36th year of publication, but before the New Year comes, how happy and how thankful I am to be here with you, in preparation for the enjoyment of this most festive season.



CMPIC Meeting

(Continued from Page 11)

and affiliated industries, has the power to appoint authorized delegates who have voting rights, alternate delegates and observers. At the first inauguration meeting, the number of delegates for each member-associate was specified.

Fred Dillon, secretary of the Motion Picture Distributors Association, was elected Chairman of the Public Relations Committee. The Chairman appointed to his committee the following committee-members: Clare Appel, Jimmy Nairn, Len B. Johnson, Tom Cleary, Bill Lester, Hye Bossin, Archie Laurie, James Cowan.

Archie Mason was elected Chairman of the Legislative Committee and appointed as his committee-members: Matt Park, Vice-Chairman; P. W. Mahon, Maynard S. Joiner, Nat Taylor, Charles Chaplin, Dave Griesdorf, Charles Bourassa, Rene Germaine, Gordon Spencer.

Morris Stein was elected Chairman of the Finance Committee and appointed Mesho Triller as Vice-Chairman; Gordon Lightstone, Basil Salamis, Ken Leach, Len B. Johnson, R. W. Bolstad, Ben Freedman, William Singleton, Gordon Spencer.

J. Arthur Hirsch was elected Chairman of the Box-Office Committee and appointed Larry Bearg, John Ganetakos, David Griesdorf, Charles Chaplin, Gurston Allen to his committee.

Jack Chisholm was elected Chairman of the Intra-Industry Committee and appointed Ray Lewis as Vice-Chairman; Robert Hurwitz, H. C. D. Main, William Winterton, Harvey Harnick, Charles Chaplin.

F. Gordon Spencer was elected Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, and appointed Ken Leach as Vice-Chairman; Jack Chisholm and Fred Dillon.

The president, John J. Fitzgibbons, in opening the Council meeting, said: "You are not only welcome, this is an under-statement: for we need you very much."

During the conference the president reported on a letter which he had directed to the Federal Government pledging the services of the Canadian Motion Picture Industry Council should emergency conditions arise necessitating such services. A reply from the Government expressed thanks for the services offered and an appreciation for the cooperation which the Government had already received from the Industry in connection with the Cooperative Plan, and for the leadership given by the Industry in the Savings Bonds Campaigns.

Mr. Fitzgibbons reported on the services which he was able to get from the American Film Industry, from producers, exhibitors, distributors, from radio stations, all at no cost to the Canadian Government, and which

publicized Canada extensively throughout the United States.

He reported on a story as published in the Financial Post; he mentioned that the industry in Canada had 14,000 employees and paid out \$15,000,000 a year in wages, that, in respect to public relations, we had a family of employees numbering thousands, and those dependent on this family, whom we could interest in becoming our Ambassadors of Good-Will.

Mr. Fitzgibbons brought to the attention of those in conference, present world conditions and economic changes. He presented a scale of figures which reached \$56.75 as an average overhead operational expense for a middle-class family, who had obligations under the deferred payment or instalment plan, and by comparison he pointed out that the average weekly wage in the U.S. was \$58.00 a week, and in Canada, for the average middle-class family, about \$47.00 per week. Admissions to theatres in the U.S. averaged about 42 cents and in Canada 32 cents.

Since all the delegates and many of the observers were invited to make comments, and many availed themselves of the Open Forum and free discussion policy, it is difficult to report on the many observations made, with discussions at times vigorous and spirited.

Appeal trailers and newsclips for general distribution in Canada were discussed, and it was the unanimous opinion that in respect to these, messages which were in the public interest nationally would receive preference for exhibition.

All member-associates would receive notices in advance of the dates on which newsclips and trailers of a national nature would be distributed for exhibition.

A plan for contributions to emergency relief was suggested in the form of a recommendation, to be considered by the various member-associations before the plan could be adopted by the Council.

No resolution approved by the delegates in Council-meeting can be adopted by the Council until first submitted to the associate-members and unanimously approved by them.

Word has just reached us of the unfortunate death of Ike Sourkas, well-known Montreal showman.

On Monday of this week, John Silverthorne, father of O. J. Silverthorne, Chairman of the Ontario Board of Censors, died at his home in Scotland, Ont. The funeral was held at Glaves Funeral Chapel in Scotland on Wednesday, Dec. 6th.

The question of Unfair Trade Practices, as such practices relate themselves to public relations, were discussed, and some of the questions raised were passed over to the National Committee of Motion Picture Exhibitors' Associations.

Delegate representation from Newfoundland was discussed and it was recommended that Archie Mason explore such possibility.

Member-associates were requested to send in suggestions which they wish included on the agenda of the next meeting, prior to the date of the next meeting, scheduled to be held in Montreal, Monday, Sept. 24-5-6 of 1951.

David Griesdorf recommended that delegates submit names to the secretary of guests or observers to be invited, in order that the Council may avail itself of the fullest opportunity to secure informative ideas through which the Council may better serve the industry in its public relations and the operation of its business. Guests would necessarily be members of the industry.

It was the unanimous opinion of the delegates and observers present at the Council's meeting that the meeting was a most constructive one, and a vote of thanks was tendered the officers and their committees in charge of the arrangements, and for the services which they had given.

Less Than Three Weeks

(Continued from Page 1)

members of your family, that your friends may never hear where you were taken or whether you are living or dead.

"What is so miraculous and wonderful about such a state of living?", you may inquire. And you may argue, "Why should our condition of living be otherwise?"

There are millions of people in the world, just as intelligent and as human as we are, just as keen in their sense of good citizenship and in their sense of responsibilities as we are, living under the conditions of which I speak. That is why we, who live as we live, should be aware of our blessings, be grateful and appreciative of them, and develop a sense of consciousness in respect to them.

All the so-called troubles which we have, and we have disappointments and heartaches, all of us, are only small worries in comparison to the living in Fear and Slavery which is the unfortunate destiny of millions of other people.

So, let us count our blessings, for as sure as The Lord made little green apples, our blessings are countless.

It is less than three weeks to Christmas so hurry, hurry, hurry, but be merry.

THE EDITOR.